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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : S.D. Breckinridge

SUBJECT : HSCA Request for Testimony on CIA Files

- 1. Action Requested: That you approve the recommendation in paragraph 4 for the Agency to prepare a reply to the HSCA declining its invitation to testify on Agency files.
- 2. Background: On 25 August the undersigned was asked by Mr. Cornwell if CIA could introduce testimony concerning its files. This request was forwarded to the Deputy Director for Operations by a memorandum of that date (Tab A attached). On 1 September the Acting Deputy Director for Operations agreed in a recommendation that the Agency decline the invitation (Tab B attached).
- 3. The basic objection to testimony on this subject is that it would require a public description of the Agency's filing system, standards and procedures in effect, and some exposure to internal organizational arrangements associated with that filing system. The general feeling is that such a briefing would lead to the revelation of classified intelligence methods which the Agency must protect.
- 4. Recommendation: It is requested that you approve a reply by me declining the invitation of the Agency to testify on this subject.

/S/ S.D. Breckinridge

Attachments: Tabs A & B

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APPROVED

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

DISAPPROVED

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